

June 19, 2008

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)**

**Tom Patzau
Patzau Bridge Replacement Project
WDID No. 1B08078WNSO**

Sonoma County

On May 15, 2008 the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Alex Hunt, on behalf of Tom Patzau, requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Patzau Bridge Replacement Project, located in Sonoma County. The proposed project causes permanent impacts to 0.004 acres of stream bank.

The proposed project is located at 1900 Crane Canyon Road, Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, California, (APN No. 045-241-009). The latitude and longitude is 38° 21' 47.62" N and 22° 38' 53.88" W. The purpose of replacing the existing bridge is to allocate safe mobility across the creek via a new steel bridge. The project site is located on private land in southern Sonoma County, on an unnamed tributary to Five Creek, within the Laguna De Santa Rosa watershed, hydrologic sub area 114.21. The Russian River watershed and the Laguna de Santa Rosa (tributary to the Russian River) are identified on the State of California Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list. The Russian River is listed as impaired for sediment and temperature. The Laguna de Santa Rosa is listed as impaired for sediment, temperature, nitrogen, phosphorus, dissolved oxygen, and mercury. Activities that impact the riparian zone and riparian vegetation are identified as sources contributing to increased stream temperatures in both watersheds. Agricultural activities are identified as sources of sediment, nitrogen and phosphorus. At present, there are no watershed-specific implementation plans for these TMDLs. If TMDL implementation plans are adopted for these watersheds prior to the expiration date of this Order, the Regional Water Board may revise the provisions of this Order to address actions identified in such action plans.

The overall project is proposing to replace the existing bridge with a new bridge, built and installed by Daniels Bridge of Ukiah. By increasing the span of the new bridge to 30 feet, the pilings and the existing concrete abutments may be left in place. The tree stump trapped under the bridge (which is causing bank erosion on the south abutment) will be removed after removing the existing wood deck and two steel beams. No work will be done in the creek since the crane will be able to reach across to the south side of the stream. No diversion of water will be required. The impact of the overall project will improve the clearance under the new permanent bridge structure. After re-grading road approaches to the bridge, the applicant will install erosion control measures.

Compensatory mitigation is required for this project and will be done through restoration of degraded stream bank areas downstream of bridge by installation of native riparian vegetation and cessation of cattle grazing in the area. Future monitoring, maintenance and management of the site after construction are the responsibility of the landowner.

At a minimum, the following construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the final Project plans in order to reduce and control soil erosion: work around waterways will be conducted during the dry season (April 15th to October 15th); installation of construction barrier fencing to preclude equipment entry into sensitive areas; installation of silt fencing or wattles to prevent sediment loss from immediate work area; topsoil salvage and reapplication; and seeding and mulching. Additionally, all required BMPs shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment, before start of construction activities.

Tom Patzau has applied for a Stream bed Alteration Agreement (CDFG 1600-2008-0119-3) from the California Department of Fish and Game.

Sonoma County is planning on issuing a Categorical Exemption under CEQA.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the project is outside of jurisdictional waters of the U.S. and will not be issuing a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit.

The Patzau Bridge Replacement Project is scheduled to begin summer 2008 and end by October 15, 2008. Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653, or at sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov, or Amber Taxiera at (707) 576-2466, ataxiera@waterboards.ca.gov, within 21 days of posting of this notice.

This is a brief summary of this project; all related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd., Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.

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